## EMPLOYER STATUS DETERMINATION Portland & Western Railroad. Inc.

This is the determination of the Railroad Retirement Board concerning the status of Portland & Western Railroad, Inc. (P&W) as an employer under the Railroad Retirement Act (45 U.S.C. §231  $\underline{\text{et}}$   $\underline{\text{seq.}}$ ) (RRA) and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (45 U.S.C. §351  $\underline{\text{et}}$   $\underline{\text{seq.}}$ ) (RUIA).

Information about P&W was furnished by its Controller, Mr. Gerald A. Sattora. P&W commenced operations on August 18, 1995. The company operates over 52.68 route miles in Oregon under a lease agreement with the Southern Pacific Transportation Company (BA No. 1713). Specifically, operations consist of the Tillamook Branch from milepost 741.59 near Willsburg Junction to milepost 770.50 near Schefflin; the Westside-Seghers Branch from milepost 764.80 near Hillsboro to milepost 754.57 near Seghers; and the Newberg Branch from milepost 763.99 near Cook to milepost 749.67 near Newberg. P&W obtained authorization for its operation in Interstate Commerce Commission Finance Docket No. 32758.

P&W has eleven employees who were first compensated from August 23, 1995. P&W interchanges with the Burlington Northern Railroad (BA No.1621), the Southern Pacific Railroad, the Port of Tillamook Bay Railroad (BA No.4769), and the Willamette & Pacific Railroad (BA No.2764).

Based upon the information summarized above, the Board finds that Portland & Western Railroad, Inc. became a rail carrier employer under the RRA and the RUIA effective August 18, 1995, the date on which it began operations.

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PORT2645.cov C. 2645-95 TO : The Board

FROM : Catherine C. Cook

General Counsel

**SUBJECT:** Coverage Determination

Portland & Western Railroad, Inc.

Attached is a proposed coverage ruling for Board approval.

Attachment